

# RS Nashville gives poolees taste of recruit training



Special to The Boot  
**A Depot drill instructor gives Nashville poolees a brief sample of the life of a Marine Corps recruit. Poolees in the Delayed Entry Program traveled more than 900 miles for their first taste of recruit training.**

**STAFF SGT. JASON S. FISCHER**  
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Future Marines waiting for their turn at recruit training recently got a taste of what to expect at Recruiting Station Nashville’s Family Days.

Command group members and support Marines traveled more than 900 miles to six different sites over a one-week period to host the Family Day events.

Recruiting Station Nashville Sgt. Maj. Ethbin Hayes said the purpose of the weeklong venture was two-fold.

“This gave the command an opportunity to re-emphasize the importance of the Delayed Entry Program and solicit the continued family support of our future Marines,” he explained. “Additionally, it gives families an opportunity to clear any unanswered questions or concerns about the Marine Corps.”

During the family days, future Marines brought their families with them to learn about what they will be experiencing in the coming weeks and months. Drill instructors from the Depot were on hand

to give the future Marines a reality check and show them a few minutes of what they will encounter at recruit training.

According to Josh Cox, a poolee recruited out of Recruiting Substation Rivergate, Tenn., the one-on-one contact with drill instructors allowed him a glimpse of what the near future holds for him, as he leaves for recruit training June 14.

“I thought the Family Day was a great chance for future Marines to get together and see what recruit training’s all about,” he said. “The drill instructors motivated me and it felt like I was on the yellow foot prints at Parris Island – one percent uneasiness and 99 percent motivation.”

Hayes agreed, saying the drill instructors were well received by the entire pool.

“The pool was thrilled and excited to experience the display of receiving at Parris Island and to be able to ask direct questions of the visiting drill instructors.”

Hayes said bringing nearly 450 future Marines and more than 600 family members together with the recruiters and drill instructors ultimately helps accomplish

the mission of “Making Marines.”

“Seeing the number and quality of future Marines we have in our Delayed Entry Program is one of the best things about having a Family Day,” he said. “It also helps to re-enforce the standards expected while in the Delayed Entry Program along with the (experience of the) first three weeks of recruit training.”

For Cox, the Family Day was somewhat of a pop quiz for recruit training to see if his training has paid off.

“Recruit training will be a challenge, but this past year in the DEP has thoroughly prepared me for all of the challenges that await me,” said Cox.

But for Hayes, one of the greatest benefits of having a Family Day is pride.

“The pride these future Marines display when their family refers to them being part of a sharp, close-knit organization is outstanding – the pride of the family knowing that their son or daughter will make a difference.”

Reaching out to future Marines and their families gives them an early feeling of how strong the “Marine Family” is.

## District News



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**MILITARY APPRECIATION DAY**

- **Date:** May 15
- **Time:** 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
- **Place:** Shady Point Park at MCAS Beaufort

**Enjoy food, entertainment, clowns and non-alcoholic beverages.**

- **Open to all active duty and retired military and their families.**

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